



June 27, 2016

Ms. Caroline Starnes
4622 Cedar Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

Dear Ms. Starnes:

This is in response to your U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (GSA-2016-000834), dated June 2, 2016, in which you requested the following:

"A copy of the Proposal Submissions that resulted in GSA Contract #GS-07F-072CA."

GSA is denying your request for a copy of the proposal submissions that resulted in GSA Contract GS-07F-072CA, pursuant to the FOIA "Exemption 3" (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3)) and "Exemption 4" (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4)).

Exemption 3 of the FOIA incorporates nondisclosure provisions that are found in other federal statutes; it allows agencies to withhold information under the FOIA that is specifically prohibited from disclosure by those statutes. The proposal submissions information you requested is being withheld pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 4702, which specifically prohibits the release of contractor proposals in the possession or control of an executive agency submitted in response to a competitive solicitation.

Additionally, Exemption 4 of the FOIA protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person [that is] privileged or confidential" 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4). GSA may withhold commercial or financial records if release of the information would involve a substantial risk of competitive injury to a business that directly or indirectly furnished information to GSA. We have determined that the proposal submissions information we are withholding under this exemption meets this test.

Based on the information cited above, this constitutes a denial of your request. You have the right to appeal the denial of records under FOIA. To do so, you must write, within 120 days of your receipt of this letter, to the following address:

U.S. General Services Administration
FOIA Requester Service Center (H1F)
1800 F St. NW, Room 7308
Washington, DC 20405

Your appeal must be in writing and should contain a brief statement of the reasons why the requested information should be released. Enclose copies of your initial request and this denial. Both the appeal letter and envelope should be marked prominently, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

This completes our action on this FOIA request. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Ms. Hazel Hartfield, Contracting Officer at 817-850-8319 or by email at hazel.hartfield@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Travis S. Lewis

FOIA Program Manager